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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Milwaukee-based National Guard artillery battalion ordered to active duty in April

The Wisconsin National Guard received a mobilization order Monday (March 13) for 1st Battalion, 121st Field Artillery. The battalion is headquartered in Milwaukee with subordinate units in three other Wisconsin communities. Individual units mobilized with the battalion are:

- Headquarters and Headquarters Battery Milwaukee
- Battery A Milwaukee
- Battery B Plymouth
- Detachment 1, Battery B Two Rivers
- Battery C Sussex

More than 400 soldiers are affected by the mobilization order. The battalion's soldiers are expected to report to active duty at their unit armories April 19 and remain there for several days before moving to their mobilization station in Mississippi. Wisconsin Guard officials expect the unit will eventually deploy overseas.

Soldiers were first notified of the battalion's possible mobilization after an alert notification was received in January. Notifications to soldiers about the mobilization order began Monday.

The battalion's mobilization order is for 545 days — about 18 months. It is expected that the unit will serve overseas for one full year following several months of mobilization processing and predeployment training.

Mobilization of 1st Battalion, 121st Field Artillery will bring the total number of Wisconsin National Guard soldiers and airmen on active duty to more than 2,500.

With this mobilization, about 7,260 soldiers and airmen from the Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard — more than 76 percent of the Guard's total force in the state — will have served on active duty since September 11, 2001. One other Wisconsin Army National Guard unit, Oshkosh-based 1157th Transportation Company, is awaiting a mobilization that will begin in mid-June for the unit's 150 soldiers.

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